

ABSTRACT

A method and apparatus are provided for improving the functionality of a remote input device while allowing for the input device to perform a number of roles. This is achieved by providing a detachable keyboard within a portable computer capable of functioning as both a hardwired, internal input device and as a remote, wireless input device. The input device of the invention is capable of being housed within a portable computer and performs as a typical on-board input device. In addition, the input device may be removed from the base of the computer and used as an internally-powered wireless control device. In the latter mode the communication between the input device and the computer takes place through a wireless link existing between the input device and the computer.